

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the foregoing amendment, the specification has been amended to add sub-headings as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's suggestion for overcoming the prior art principally by combining originally presented claims 1 and 2. However, applicant believes that original claim 1 which has now been amended and reasserted in amended form as claim 20 is patentable over the applied prior art. Claim 21 dependent upon claim 20 incorporates substantially the aspects of the invention which the Examiner considered to be allowable.

The rejection of claim 1, now claim 20 as amended, as anticipated by Mischel U.S. patent No. 3,574,354 is respectfully traversed. Mischel relates to a flexible pipe coupling and has nothing to do with the recited nozzle support ring having a through hole and a cooling pipe wherein an easy fit heat screening device is interposed to facilitate connection between the cooling pipe and the nozzle support ring. Moreover, the structure recited is not found in Mischel. In Mischel, the opposite ends in Figure 6 are swaged to support structure with a bellows between the support structures to enable flexing of the joint. There is no nozzle support ring or cooling pipe or a tubular structure arranged in the manner set forth in claim 20. Fundamentally Mischel does not disclose a screening tubular device which can be inserted into a through hole wherein the screening device has at the top a shaped annular end which is inserted inside a groove formed in the through hole. The problem of how to remotely position a screening device in a nozzle and make it stay in place is not identified in Mischel nor is the solution which involves structural elements set forth in claim 20 and not found in Mischel.

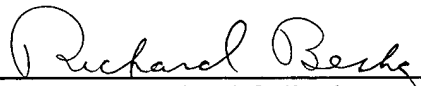
The rejection of claims 1, 15-19 (the original claims) now essentially corresponding to claims 20 and 33-36 as unpatentable over Frosini U.S. patent No. 6,398,485 in view of Mischel

is respectfully traversed. The Examiner states Frosini discloses a tubular structure but does not identify that tubular structure in the Frosini reference. Applicant cannot identify that tubular structure reference by the Examiner since there is no tubular structure in Frosini which meets the terms of claims 20 and claims dependent thereon. Frosini does disclose sealing rings at opposite end of the cooling tube but neither Frosini nor Mischel disclose the claimed tubular structure in relation to the groove in the nozzle support ring and the cooling pipe. Modifications of Frosini in light of Mischel therefore would not result in the claimed invention.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 2-14 subject only to being rewritten in independent form. Should any rejection of the claims presently pending be made, it would be appreciated that claims 21-32 correspond to the claims indicated allowable. Accordingly, applicant believes the application is now in condition for allowance and early notification of the allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: 
Richard G. Besha
Reg. No. 22,770

RGB:pfc
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100